

Nov. 3, 2016

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

> Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* presentations Docket Nos. 16-143, 05-25, 15-247, RM-10593, 02-06, 10-90, 13-184, 02-60

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Wednesday, November 2, 2016, Amy Robinson and I on behalf of the Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband Coalition (SHLB) met with Amy Bender in Commissioner O'Rielly's office to discuss the issues summarized below:

- Regarding the Business Data Services proceeding, we emphasized that the final decision should be technology-neutral and should lower prices for Ethernet services as well as TDM services in order to ensure that small and rural anchor institutions can receive lower rates for their broadband services.
- Regarding the FCC's Rural Healthcare (RHC) Program, we noted that there is an emerging crisis because the applicants are likely to exceed the cap on funding, and existing providers that currently receive funding may lose some of that funding, resulting in some health clinics being unable to afford their broadband connections. We encouraged the Commission to allow previously-allocated but unused RHC funds to be carried forward to cover the funding shortfall as a stop-gap measure until the Commission can consider comprehensive reform of the program.
- We discussed the importance of planning and coordination among the Universal Service Fund programs, and we discussed the importance of collaboration with private sector broadband companies to leverage, and not duplicate, facilities funded from the Connect America Fund.

- Regarding the E-rate Petitions filed by the Boulder Valley School District and two Virginia schools along with Microsoft, we suggested that the E-rate program should permit but not pay for the extension of service from the schools to surrounding students at home under certain conditions. This "permit but not pay for" approach would have the benefit of allowing existing networks funded by E-rate to be shared with the surrounding community without harming the long-term viability of the E-rate program.

Sincerely,

John Windhausen, Jr.

John Windhauren, f.

Executive Director

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cc: Amy Bender